

The pabulum of the present-day *E. brevicornis* of the suburbs etc. was thus a mystery to me until, some years ago, Mrs. K. Southern (née Paviour-Smith) mentioned in the course of conversation that this *Enicmus* has been found freely (I believe, in several places around Oxford) in association with the sooty mould of sycamore. She suggested that the beetle's increase might well have been in response to a widespread outbreak of the fungus, which appears likely to be the truth of the matter. As I understand that other coleopterists have observed this association in latter years, we shall doubtless be hearing more about it before long. It is curious, however, that the sycamores in this district seem remarkably free from the sooty mould and I have yet to find the Lathridiid on any of them.

To answer the question whether the spread experienced here is part of a larger movement or not, one would of course have to know whether anything similar had been observed on those parts of the Continent nearest to us. If so, the *E. brevicornis* that we are finding here to-day in such unaccustomed numbers may well not be descendants of our native stock, but have a Continental ancestry. — A. A. ALLEN.

RORIPPA SYLVESTRIS [CRUCIFERAE] AS A LARVAL FOOD-PLANT OF PIERIS NAPI L. — At Dartford, on 29th July 1979, several of these butterflies, mainly males, were seen feeding at the conspicuous, yellow flowers of *R. sylvestris* which grows in small patches within a hospital grounds. However, I also noted a ♀ laying eggs singly upon the plants, and on subsequent occasions in 1979 and 1980 butterflies were observed feeding at the flowers and ♀♀ engaged in egg laying, and I also discovered two medium sized larvae.

*R. sylvestris* is a somewhat local plant usually associated with wet conditions; the situation referred to is not particularly wet although it lies on the clay outcrop of the Tertiary Thanet Sand of the Joyden Wood area.

*R. sylvestris* appears not to have been recorded previously as a foodplant of the larvae of *P. napi*, even under its former name of *Nasturtium sylvestre*. In the locality noted this plant is certainly a regular foodplant, although probably for larvae of the second generation only, for in May and June the plants are small and may be obscured by taller vegetation, nor have they reached the flowering stage which is an attraction to butterflies of the summer brood; also, in May and June there are relatively few flowers of other plant species in the immediate vicinity of these patches of *R. sylvestris*, and butterflies are conspicuous by their absence.

The adults of *P. napi* probably play some part in the pollination of the flowers which are apparently self-incompatible and do not produce much fertile seed. — B. K. WEST 36 Briar Road. Bexley, Kent.

CATOPSILIA FLORELLA F., LARVAL COLORATION — Reverting to my recent short note under this title (1980, *Ent. Record*, 92: 166), I have now been able to rear larvae of this species on the flowers of one of the pink-flowered *Cassia* spp. Green larvae

were transferred from the leaves of a yellow-flowered *Cassia* sp. in their 2nd instar and turned yellow after the moult, exactly the same colour as larvae fed *ab ovo* on flowers of yellow *Cassia* sp. without any trace of pink, and this colour was maintained until pupation. The pupae were green, similar to pupae reared on leaves or yellow flowers. — D. G. SEVASTOPULO, F.R.E.S., Mombasa, 27.iii, 1981.

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HENRY J. TURNER'S CORRESPONDENCE AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY. — A small but interesting collection (ca. 75 items) of the papers of H. J. Turner (1856-1950), lepidopterist and second editor of *The Entomologist's Record*, has been donated to the American Museum of Natural History, New York City. Among the correspondents represented are Lionel Walter Rothschild, F. W. Frohawk, Karl Jordan, Edward Step, T. A. Chapman, J. Herbert Tutt, Louis B. Prout, E. B. Purefoy, Evelyn Cheesman, Roger Verity, Ezra T. Cresson, Charles Oberthür, George Wheeler, A. F. Page, G. A. Boulenger, W. Egmont Kirby, G. T. Bethune-Baker, W. G. Sheldon, Alfred Sich, W. Junk and Rowland E. Turner.

The papers (1904-25) are most numerous from that transitional period in the *Record's* history when Turner had taken the editorship after the death of founder James W. Tutt, and some of the letters elucidate the problems encountered. Sich wrote to Turner on 9 February 1911 about the journal's financial condition, offering to contribute up to £10 immediately to help defray expenses, but cautioning that "the assistant editors will have to do a little of the work and not sit still behind the cover of the *Record*, like a consulting doctor behind his brass plate." The near collapse of the journal is illustrated by letters such as that of 6 June 1912 from J. Herbert Tutt, apologizing to Turner for recent events and explaining that he could not post the May issue as he had to pay his rent instead. From January to April he had received no money for postage, and had to conduct the mailing himself with his limited funds; he could no longer purchase the stamps unless financial conditions improved.

There is ample editorial correspondence from Turner's assumption through 1925 (in that year, an excellent letter from Verity), and other subjects are documented, such as Turner's exchange of specimens, his collections of current and antiquarian publications, the Verrall Suppers, the Entomological Club, the Wicken Fen Fund, and further concerns. Included in the papers is one lengthy letter to J. W. Tutt, a 1909 account by Oberthür's collector Harold Powell of a season's work in France, including his search for the Large Copper in Aisne.

These letters and ephemera were given to me in 1966 by E. W. Classey, Esq., and have been conveyed to the Museum as part of my personal papers and historical collections. — Dr. R. S. WILKINSON, The American Museum of Natural History, New York City, New York 10024.